

SPECIFICATION

Please delete the Abstract of the Disclosure presently on file and replace with the following:

A process for the removal of sour gas from pressurised natural gas containing sulphur and other sour gas compounds, has natural gas, which is to be desulphurised, being fed into a sour gas absorption unit, in which the sulphur components and any other components are absorbed. The absorbate is heated and fed into a high-pressure flash unit, in which the sour-gas-poor absorbent and desorbed sour gas contained in the resulting mixture are separated. The desorbed sour gas is cooled and the vaporised absorbent is condensed. A pressure is set in the high-pressure flash unit that permits the desorbed sour gas to be condensed by means of cooling water or air, the sour-gas-poor absorbent from the high-pressure flash unit is freed from sour gas residues in a gas stripping unit, and the absorbent obtained is cooled and recycled to the sour gas absorption unit.